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NOTICE

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ORAL RABIES VACCINATION AREA

Virginia has teamed up with the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Wildlife Services (WS) program to distribute raccoon rabies vaccines over a 2,000-square-mile area in the southwestern part of the State. The oral vaccines, delivered in fishmeal baits the size of ice cubes, will be dropped in **August and September** from low-flying planes and by local teams on the ground.

If you find rabies vaccination baits, leave them alone unless they are where children and pets play.

To move rabies baits:

- Wear gloves or use a paper towel when picking up baits.
- Toss intact baits into a woodlot, ditch, or other raccoon habitat area.
- Bag and dispose of damaged baits in the trash.
- Wash your hands after any skin contact with damaged bait.

If your pet eats a vaccination bait, don't panic!

- A few baits are not harmful, although eating a lot may cause an upset stomach.
- Do not risk getting bitten or getting vaccine on you by taking bait away from your pet.
- Check the area where the bait was found and relocate any additional baits.
- To avoid coming into contact with the vaccine, practice proper hygiene and avoid your pet's saliva for 24 hours. As a precaution, wash any skin or wounds that may have been licked.

Questions about the bait you have found or about the rabies vaccination program? Contact WS' State office at: **(804) 739-7739**

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U.S. Department of Agriculture • Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service
Program Aid No. 1725

Issued August 2002